

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 6 and 13 without prejudice, amend Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 21, 23, and 24 as shown below, and add new Claims 25 and 26. A complete copy of the claims including marked-up versions of each claim which is amended in this Amendment A appears below.

1 1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for setting and maintaining the dimensions of
2 a door frame having opposing first and second sidewalls each having a doorstop mounted
3 thereupon, comprising:

4 a first head plate including a first facing edge for engagement with a first sidewall
5 of a door frame, said first facing edge having a notch located therein for admitting a first
6 doorstop mounted on the first sidewall of the door frame;

7 a first arm connected to said first head plate at a side opposite said first facing
8 edge;

9 a second head plate including a second facing edge for engagement with a second
10 sidewall of the door frame, said second facing edge having a notch located therein for
11 admitting a second doorstop mounted on the second sidewall of the door frame;

12 a second arm connected to said second head plate at a side opposite said second
13 facing edge, said second arm being adjustably engageable with said first arm, one of said
14 first arm and said second arm including a plurality of indexing apertures; and

15 an adjustment mechanism associated with the other of said first arm and said
16 second arm, said adjustment mechanism ~~being~~ comprising at least one retractably
17 engageable member for selectively releasable engagement with a selected one of said
18 plurality of indexing apertures ~~for locking to lock~~ said first arm in ~~any~~ a corresponding
19 one of a plurality of discrete positions relative to said second arm to thereby establish the
20 distance between said first and second facing edges, wherein said plurality of discrete
21 positions allowing ~~the~~ said apparatus to be used ~~with~~ to facilitate the installation of door
22 frames ~~having~~ to accommodate doors having one of a plurality of dimensions standard
23 widths.

1 2. (Original) The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein at least one of said first
2 arm and said second arm includes measuring indicia located thereon.

1 3. (Original) The apparatus as defined in Claim 2, wherein said measuring indicia are
2 longitudinally spaced at two-inch intervals along one of said first arm and said second
3 arm.

1 4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein said plurality
2 of indexing apertures ~~are~~ comprise a series of diametrically opposed pairs of indexing
3 apertures.

1 5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim 4, wherein said other of
2 said first arm and said second arm ~~includes~~ comprises a pair of diametrically opposed
3 apertures defined transversely therethrough, said adjustment mechanism ~~disposed~~
4 ~~between~~ comprising a pair of retractably engageable members located in said pair of
5 diametrically opposed apertures, ~~at least a portion of said adjustment mechanism~~ said
6 retractably engageable members being biased to retractably extend through said pair of
7 diametrically opposed apertures and retractably engage a selected pair of said
8 diametrically opposed pairs of indexing apertures in said one of said first arm and said
9 second arm.

1 6. (Cancelled).

1 7. (Original) The apparatus as defined in Claim 6, wherein said first head plate
2 further includes a positioning finger extending outward from a side of said facing edge in
3 a direction opposite said connection to said first arm, and wherein said second head plate
4 further includes a positioning finger extending outward from a side of said facing edge in
5 a direction opposite said connection to said second arm.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim 6, wherein said first arm
2 is telescopically engaged with said second arm, at least a portion of said one of said first
3 arm and said second arm fitting within said other of said first arm and said second arm.

1 9. (Original) An apparatus for setting and maintaining the dimensions of a door
2 frame, comprising:

3 a first head plate, wherein said first head plate includes a facing edge defining a
4 notch and a positioning finger extending outward from a side of said facing edge;

5 a first hollow arm, said first hollow arm having a first end and a second end,
6 wherein said first end is connected to said first head plate opposite said notch;

7 a second head plate, wherein said second head plate includes a facing edge
8 defining a notch and a positioning finger extending outward from a side of said facing
9 edge;

10 a second hollow arm, said second hollow arm having a first end and a second end,
11 wherein said first end is connected to said second head plate opposite said notch, and
12 wherein said first hollow arm and said second hollow arm are telescopically engaged at
13 said second ends;

14 a plurality of pairs of diametrically opposed apertures longitudinally spaced along
15 a length of said second hollow arm;

16 measuring indicia located on said second hollow arm and corresponding to each of
17 said plurality of pairs of diametrically opposed apertures; and

18 an adjustment mechanism disposed within said second end of said first hollow
19 arm, said adjustment mechanism being biased to retractably engage said plurality of pairs
20 of diametrically opposed apertures for locking said first hollow arm in any of a plurality

of positions relative to said second hollow arm, said plurality of positions allowing the apparatus to be used with door frames having a plurality of dimensions.

10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for setting and maintaining the dimensions of a door frame having opposing first and second sidewalls, comprising:

a first extension assembly, said first extension assembly including a first head plate including a first facing edge, said first facing edge of said first head plate being engageable for engagement with a first sidewall of the door frame;

a second extension assembly, said second extension assembly including a second head plate including a second facing edge, said second facing edge of said second head plate being engageable for engagement with a second sidewall of the door frame opposite said the first sidewall of the door frame, said second extension assembly being adjustably engageable with said first extension assembly, ~~one of said first extension assembly and said second extension assembly including a plurality of indexing apertures; in a manner whereby the distance between said first facing edge and said second facing edge can be varied; and~~

~~at least one an adjustment mechanism associated with the other of said first extension assembly and said second assembly; at least a portion of said adjustment mechanism being biased to retractably extend outward from said other of said first extension assembly and said second extension assembly; said adjustment mechanism being retractably engageable with said plurality of indexing apertures. to allow the~~

19 distance between said first facing edge and said second facing edge to be set to a desired
20 one of a plurality of discrete distances to facilitate the installation of door frames to
21 accommodate doors having one of a plurality of standard widths.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim ~~10~~, 14, wherein at least
2 one of said first ~~extension assembly~~ arm and said second ~~extension assembly~~ arm
3 includes measuring indicia located thereon.

1 12. (Original) The apparatus as defined in Claim 11, wherein said measuring indicia
2 are longitudinally spaced at two-inch intervals along said one of said first extension
3 assembly and said second extension assembly.

1 13. (Cancelled).

1 14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim 10, wherein said first
2 extension assembly further ~~includes~~ comprises a first arm, and wherein said second
3 extension assembly further ~~includes~~ comprises a second arm, said first arm being
4 connected to said first head plate on a side opposite said first facing edge and said second
5 arm being connected to said second head plate on a side opposite said second facing
6 edge, one of said first and second arms comprising a plurality of indexing apertures and
7 the other of said first and second arms comprising an adjustment mechanism comprising

8 at least one retractably engageable member for selectively releasable engagement with a
9 selected one of said plurality of indexing apertures to lock said first arm in a
10 corresponding one of a plurality of discrete positions relative to said second arm to
11 thereby establish the distance between said first and second facing edges.

1 15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim 14, wherein said first
2 ~~head plate includes a facing edge defining~~ has a notch located therein for admitting a first
3 doorstop mounted on the first sidewall of the door frame ~~a side opposite said connection~~
4 ~~to said first arm, and wherein said second head plate includes a facing edge defining~~ has a
5 notch located therein a side opposite said connection to said second arm. for admitting a
6 second doorstop mounted on the second sidewall of the door frame.

1 16. (Original) The apparatus as defined in Claim 15, wherein said first head plate
2 further includes a positioning finger extending outward from a side of said facing edge in
3 a direction opposite said connection to said first arm, and wherein said second head plate
4 further include a positioning finger extending outward from a side of said facing edge in
5 a direction opposite said connection to said second arm.

1 17. (Original) The apparatus as defined in Claim 15, wherein said first arm includes a
2 first end and a second end, and wherein said second arm includes a first end and a second
3 end, said first end of said first arm connected to said first head plate at a side opposite

4 said notch and said first end of said second arm connected to said second head plate at a
5 side opposite said notch, said second end of said first arm adjustably engaged with said
6 second end of said second arm.

1 18. (Original) The apparatus as defined in Claim 17, wherein at least one of said first
2 arm and said second arm is hollow.

1 19. (Original) The apparatus as defined in Claim 18, wherein said hollow arm has an
2 inner diameter greater than an outer diameter of the other arm of said first arm and said
3 second arm.

1 20. (Original) The apparatus as defined in Claim 19, wherein said second end of said
2 first arm is telescopically engaged with said second end of said second arm, at least a
3 portion of one of said second end of said first arm and said second end of said second arm
4 fitting within the other of second end of said first arm and said second end of said second
5 arm.

1 21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim 20, wherein one of said
2 first arm and said second arm comprises a plurality of indexing apertures, and wherein at
3 ~~least one~~ the other of said first arm and said second arm further includes a pair of
4 diametrically opposed apertures defined transversely through said second end, said an

adjustment mechanism being disposed between said pair of diametrically opposed apertures, at least a portion of said adjustment mechanism being biased to retractably extend through said pair of diametrically opposed apertures and retractably engage said plurality of indexing apertures.

22. (Original) The apparatus as defined in Claim 21, wherein said retractable engagement of said adjustment mechanism with said plurality of indexing apertures locks said first arm in any of a plurality of positions relative to said second arm, said plurality of positions allowing the apparatus to be used with door frames having a plurality of dimensions.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim ~~10~~, 21, wherein said plurality of indexing apertures are diametrically opposed pairs of indexing apertures longitudinally spaced at two-inch intervals along a length of at least one of said first extension assembly and said second extension assembly.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for setting and maintaining the dimensions of a door frame having opposing first and second sidewalls each having a doorstop mounted thereupon, comprising the steps of:
positioning and anchoring a first sidewall of the door frame to a surface;

5 providing a first head plate including a first facing edge for engagement with a
6 first sidewall of a door frame and a second head plate including a second facing edge for
7 engagement with a second sidewall of the door frame, said first facing edge having a
8 notch located therein for admitting a first doorstop mounted on the first sidewall of the
9 door frame and said second facing edge having a notch located therein for admitting a
10 second doorstop mounted on the second sidewall of the door frame, said first head plate
11 having a first arm connected thereto at a side opposite said first facing edge and said
12 second face plate having a second arm connected thereto at a side opposite said second
13 facing edge, said first and second arms being adjustably engageable to establish a
14 distance between said first facing edge and second facing edge which is one of a plurality
15 of predetermined distances;

16 abutting a said first facing edge of said first head plate of a door frame setter
17 apparatus against said the first sidewall of the door frame with the doorstop on the first
18 sidewall being accommodated within said notch in said first facing edge;

19 extending said door frame setter apparatus adjusting the engagement of said first
20 and second arms to establish a precise, predetermined length in accordance with
21 measuring indicia present upon said door frame setter apparatus; distance between said
22 first and second facing edges which is equal to the nominal width of a door to be installed
23 in the door frame;

24 abutting a said first facing edge of said second head plate against the second
25 sidewall of the door frame against a second head plate of said door frame setter

26 apparatus; with the doorstep on the second sidewall being accommodated within said
27 notch in said second facing edge; and
28 anchoring said the second sidewall of the door frame to said the surface, said the
29 second sidewall being positioned at a precise separation from said the first sidewall, as
30 established by said door frame setter apparatus.

1 25. (New) The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein said first and second head
2 plates are arranged and configured so that they may be placed into engagement with the
3 first and second sidewalls, respectively, at any position from the bottoms of the first and
4 second sidewalls to a location near the tops of the first and second sidewalls.

1 26. (New) The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein said plurality of discreet
2 distances comprises at least three different nominal standard widths of doors.